

# **Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilot** *Milwaukee Community Service Corps, Milwaukee, WI*

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5101)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

The Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilots will each be funded up to \$200,000 over two years. These Pilots will bring together community groups, job training organizations, educators, labor groups, investors, lenders, developers, and other affected parties to address the issue of providing environmental employment and training for residents in communities impacted by brownfields. The goals of the Pilots are to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites contaminated with hazardous substances and prepare trainees for employment in the environmental field, including training in alternative or innovative treatment technologies.

## **BACKGROUND**

EPA has selected the Milwaukee Community Service Corps for a Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilot. The Milwaukee Community Service Corps will concentrate its workforce development efforts in Milwaukee County, which is a Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot.

The Job Training Pilot will target the Menomonee River Valley area, once the industrial heart of Milwaukee. The target area has suffered a decline in shipping, rail, and manufacturing activities that has severely reduced employment. Approximately half of the 68,000 residents in the area are minorities. Residents suffer from a 39% poverty rate, 13% unemployment rate, and 41% high school dropout rate. The City and community-based, corporate, philanthropic, and State and local government organizations have partnered to initiate a number of assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment activities in the Menomonee River Valley. These activities, combined with the strategic location of the Valley and economic distress of residents, indicate a need for environmental training.

## **PILOT SNAPSHOT**



*Milwaukee Community  
Service Corps,  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

**Date of Announcement:**  
August 1998

**Amount:** \$200,000

**Profile:** The Pilot targets unemployed or otherwise disadvantaged young adults between the ages of 18 and 23 who reside in Milwaukee's Menomonee River Valley.

## **Contacts:**

Milwaukee Community  
Service Corps  
(414) 276-6272

Regional Brownfields Team  
U.S. EPA - Region 5  
(312) 886-0995

Visit the EPA Region 5 Brownfields web site at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

## TRAINING OBJECTIVES

The Milwaukee Community Service Corps plans to train 22 students with the EPA grant, achieve a 95% placement rate, and track students for up to one year. Participants to be targeted will be unemployed or otherwise disadvantaged young adults between the ages of 18 and 23 who reside in the Menomonee River Valley. The Pilot training program will consist of a 12-month curriculum, including training in the use of innovative assessment and cleanup technologies. Participants who complete the environmental training will satisfy course requirements within local associate degree programs. The training efforts of the Milwaukee Community Service Corps will be supported by organizations such as the Sixteenth Street Community Health Center, Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation, and HNTB Companies.

## ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Developing a curriculum for brownfields assessment and cleanup;
- Conducting brownfields assessment and cleanup training, including courses in the use of innovative assessment and cleanup technologies; and
- Conducting outreach to recruit disadvantaged young adults residing in the Menomonee River Valley.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.